

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, February 25, 1993

The House met at 11 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We pray for Your blessing, gracious God, in all the seasons of life—when the day is full and bright and the opportunities for fulfillment abound, and we also pray when the day is clouded by uncertainties and the pains of life seem to be about. Our prayer is that Your goodness and majesty and Your care for us will not cease and that Your loving kindness will be with us and all Your people, now and evermore. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOBSON] please come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance?

Mr. HOBSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

TRUE LEADERSHIP

(Mr. FROST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of President Clinton's economic package. I am truly encouraged that we finally have a President with the guts to tell the American people the truth about our economy.

Previous Presidents have refused to shoot straight with the American public. As a result, our children are in the crosshairs of an economic disaster. However, President Clinton has shown true leadership by calling the American people to pull together for the future of our country.

If our children are to enjoy the fruits of this great Nation, we must act now

to invest in our country's infrastructure, put fairness back into our Tax Code, and deal effectively with our Federal budget deficit. The President's plan does just that. It combines a short-term stimulus and long-term investment with a credible deficit-reduction strategy.

President Clinton has clearly demonstrated his commitment to the future of this country. I am confident that the American people will see this commitment and stand behind the President's plan to give our children a fighting chance. I call upon my colleagues to do the same.

A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I heard the majority leader describe a \$5.7 billion emergency spending plan for more unemployment benefits this way: "If there is any expenditure that falls clearly in the category of helping us get out of this recession, it is unemployment compensation."

I thought I might have misheard him, but I checked the RECORD this morning and it appears that that is truly what he said. Still, I hope that is not what he meant.

Not even the most Democrat Party-friendly economists are claiming that huge doses of unemployment compensation will create jobs and reduce the deficit, especially when we do not have the \$5.7 billion to pay for the unemployment, and we do not really know where we are going to get it from.

Several Members from both sides of the aisle offered proposals to pay the cost of this bill and to create jobs, but their amendments were shut out by the majority on the Rules Committee. I hope the majority does not really see unemployment benefits as the means to economic recovery in this country. If they do, we have got a much bigger problem than we think we do.

COLEMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(Ms. DANNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, freshly baked bread, cinnamon rolls, and chocolate chip cookies are just a few of the delicious items that the students of

Coleman Elementary School in St. Joseph, MO will be selling at their bake sale tomorrow.

The proceeds of the sale are to be sent to the Federal Treasury and earmarked for debt reduction. As you can see, even our children recognize the need to support efforts to reduce the national debt.

What brought about their awareness of our budget problems? A President who is willing to travel the length and breadth of this country to educate even the youngest of our citizens about the problems inherent in an out of control national debt.

As students, these young people are taught that when presented with a problem, they are to seek solution. That is precisely what they are doing.

We, as Members of Congress, should derive strength from what is happening at Coleman Elementary School. We must resolve to do what these students are doing—making all possible efforts to reduce the debt.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. MAZZOLI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MAZZOLI. Mr. Speaker, as a native-born Kentuckian and as a former State senator, I am always pleased and proud when my State is in the vanguard and exerts leadership on items of important national interest.

We were one of the very first States to have a freely elected woman Governor. We were one of the first States to have a female Lieutenant Governor. We were one of the very first States to adopt voter registration by post card, by mail, to facilitate registration. And we are one of the first States to get into the area of ethics in government and of campaign finance reform.

Last April laws were enacted which changed, for statewide candidates in Kentucky, the whole question of campaign reform. There are now limits on campaign contributions, there is partial public financing, and also there are limits on overall spending. And just a few days ago, here in February, the State assembly passed an Ethics in Government Act which affects candidates running for the State assembly. And here again are limits on what can be contributed and there are stiffer disclosure laws both for the contributions and the contributors.

I say again Kentucky is in the lead, and it certainly is exhibiting for us in

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.